

Applicants : Sharon K. Ernst et al.
Appln. No. : 10/627,139
Page : 2

In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (original) A sign system assembly comprising:
 - a frame having a face;
 - a template adapted to fit against the face in an accurate position thereon, the template having an opening therethrough and a scale thereon;
 - at least one alphanumeric locator configured to fit within the opening of the template and be properly located in position by aligning a portion of the at least one alphanumeric locator with the scale of the template, the at least one alphanumeric locator having an aperture therethrough; and
 - an alphanumeric symbol for each alphanumeric locator, each alphanumeric symbol having an adhesive backing;
 - wherein each aperture has a perimeter corresponding to a periphery of at least one alphanumeric symbol; and
 - wherein the alphanumeric symbol can be accurately positioned on the face of the frame by inserting the alphanumeric symbol through the aperture having the corresponding perimeter and adhering the alphanumeric symbol to the face of the frame.
2. (original) The sign system assembly of claim 1, wherein:
 - the frame includes a ridge extending from the face of the frame; and
 - the template is adapted to abut against the ridge to be fixed in position on the face of the frame.
3. (original) The sign system assembly of claim 2, wherein:
 - the ridge defines a closed border.

Applicants : Sharon K. Ernst et al.
Appln. No. : 10/627,139
Page : 3

4. (original) The sign system assembly of claim 3, wherein:
the ridge defines an oval interior space; and
the template includes an oval boundary corresponding to the oval interior space defined by the ridge of the frame.
5. (original) The sign system assembly of claim 1, wherein:
the opening in the template includes at least two parallel sides.
6. (original) The sign system assembly of claim 5, wherein:
the scale is located adjacent two opposite sides of the at least two parallel sides.
7. (original) The sign system assembly of claim 6, wherein:
the scale comprises a plurality of marks along each of the two opposite sides signifying a distance from a center point of the scale.
8. (original) The sign system assembly of claim 6, wherein:
the at least one alphanumeric locator includes at least two parallel edges, the at least two parallel edges of the at least one alphanumeric locator having an edge distance therebetween approximately equal to a side distance between the two opposite sides of the opening in the template, whereby the at least one alphanumeric locator can be easily and accurately placed into position within the opening in the template.
9. (original) The sign system assembly of claim 1, wherein:
the at least one alphanumeric locator comprises a plurality of alphanumeric locators.
10. (original) The sign system assembly of claim 1, further including:
a panel comprising an outer margin, the template and a guide;
wherein the template is removably connected to the outer margin and the guide is removably connected to the template.

Applicants : Sharon K. Ernst et al.
Appln. No. : 10/627,139
Page : 4

11. (original) The sign system assembly of claim 10, wherein:

the panel includes first perforations defining a first interface between the outer margin and the template and second perforations defining a second interface between the template and the guide, the second perforations defining the opening in the template whereby the opening is formed by removing the guide.

12. (original) The sign system assembly of claim 1, wherein:

the alphanumeric symbol includes double sided tape on a rear side thereof defining the adhesive backing.

13. (original) A sign making system assembly for a frame having a face comprising:

a template adapted to fit against the face in an accurate position thereon, the template having an opening therethrough and a scale thereon;

at least one alphanumeric locator configured to fit within the opening of the template and be properly located in position by aligning a portion of the at least one alphanumeric locator with the scale of the template, the at least one alphanumeric locator having an aperture therethrough; and

an alphanumeric symbol for each alphanumeric locator, each alphanumeric symbol having an adhesive backing;

wherein each aperture has a perimeter corresponding to a periphery of at least one alphanumeric symbol; and

wherein the alphanumeric symbol can be accurately positioned on the face of the frame by inserting the alphanumeric symbol through the aperture having the corresponding perimeter and connecting the alphanumeric symbol to the face of the frame.

14. (original) The sign system assembly of claim 13, wherein:

the template is adapted to abut against a ridge extending from the face of the frame to be fixed in position on the face of the frame.

Applicants : Sharon K. Ernst et al.
Appln. No. : 10/627,139
Page : 5

15. (original) The sign system assembly of claim 14, wherein:
the template includes an oval boundary configured to correspond to an oval interior space defined by the ridge of the frame.
16. (original) The sign system assembly of claim 13, wherein:
the opening in the template includes at least two parallel sides.
17. (original) The sign system assembly of claim 16, wherein:
the scale is located adjacent two opposite sides of the at least two parallel sides.
18. (original) The sign system assembly of claim 17, wherein:
the scale comprises a plurality of marks along each of the two opposite sides signifying a distance from a center point of the scale.
19. (original) The sign system assembly of claim 17, wherein:
the at least one alphanumeric locator includes at least two parallel edges, the at least two parallel edges of the at least one alphanumeric locator having an edge distance therebetween approximately equal to a side distance between the two opposite sides of the opening in the template, whereby the at least one alphanumeric locator can be easily and accurately placed into position within the opening in the template.
20. (original) The sign system assembly of claim 13, wherein:
the at least one alphanumeric locator comprises a plurality of alphanumeric locators.
21. (original) The sign system assembly of claim 13, further including:
a panel comprising an outer margin, the template and a guide;
wherein the template is removably connected to the outer margin and the guide is removably connected to the template.

Applicants : Sharon K. Ernst et al.
Appln. No. : 10/627,139
Page : 6

22. (original) The sign system assembly of claim 21, wherein:

the panel includes first perforations defining a first interface between the outer margin and the template and second perforations defining a second interface between the template and the guide, the second perforations defining the opening in the template whereby the opening is formed by removing the guide.

23. (original) The sign system assembly of claim 13, wherein:

the alphanumeric symbol for each alphanumeric locator includes double sided tape on a rear side thereof defining the adhesive backing.

24. (original) A sign making system assembly for placing alphanumeric symbols on a frame having a face, the assembly comprising:

a template adapted to fit against the face of the frame in an accurate position thereon, the template having an opening therethrough and a scale thereon; and

at least one alphanumeric locator configured to fit within the opening of the template and be properly located in position by aligning a portion of the at least one alphanumeric locator with the scale of the template, the at least one alphanumeric locator having an aperture therethrough, each aperture having a perimeter configured to correspond to a periphery of at least one alphanumeric symbol;

wherein the alphanumeric symbol can be accurately positioned on the face of the frame by inserting the alphanumeric symbol through the aperture having the corresponding perimeter and connecting the alphanumeric symbol to the face of the frame.

25. (original) The sign making system assembly of claim 24, wherein:

the template is adapted to abut against a ridge extending from the face of the frame to be fixed in position on the face of the frame.

Applicants : Sharon K. Ernst et al.
Appln. No. : 10/627,139
Page : 7

26. (original) The sign system assembly of claim 25, wherein:
the template includes an oval boundary configured to correspond to an oval interior space defined by the ridge of the frame.
27. (original) The sign system assembly of claim 24, wherein:
the opening in the template includes at least two parallel sides.
28. (original) The sign system assembly of claim 27, wherein:
the scale is located adjacent two opposite sides of the at least two parallel sides.
29. (original) The sign system assembly of claim 28, wherein:
the scale comprises a plurality of marks along each of the two opposite sides signifying a distance from a center point of the scale.
30. (original) The sign system assembly of claim 28, wherein:
the at least one alphanumeric locator includes at least two parallel edges, the at least two parallel edges of the at least one alphanumeric locator having an edge distance therebetween approximately equal to a side distance between the two opposite sides of the opening in the template, whereby the at least one alphanumeric locator can be easily and accurately placed into position within the opening in the template.
31. (original) The sign system assembly of claim 24, wherein:
the at least one alphanumeric locator comprises a plurality of alphanumeric locators.
32. (original) The sign system assembly of claim 24, further including:
a panel comprising an outer margin, the template and a guide;
wherein the template is removably connected to the outer margin and the guide is removably connected to the template.

Applicants : Sharon K. Ernst et al.
Appln. No. : 10/627,139
Page : 8

33. (original) The sign system assembly of claim 32, wherein:

the panel includes first perforations defining a first interface between the outer margin and the template and second perforations defining a second interface between the template and the guide, the second perforations defining the opening in the template whereby the opening is formed by removing the guide.

34. (original) A method of accurately making a sign comprising:

providing a frame having a face;

providing a template with a scale thereon;

providing an opening through the template;

placing the template in position against the face of the frame;

providing at least one alphanumeric locator, the at least one alphanumeric locator having an aperture therethrough;

locating the at least one alphanumeric locator within the opening of the template and aligning a portion of the at least one alphanumeric locator with the scale of the template to accurately position the at least one alphanumeric locator;

providing an alphanumeric symbol for each alphanumeric locator, each alphanumeric symbol having a periphery corresponding to a perimeter of the aperture of one of the at least one alphanumeric locator;

inserting the alphanumeric symbol through the aperture in one of the at least one alphanumeric locator; and

connecting each alphanumeric symbol to the face of the frame.

35. (original) The method of accurately making a sign of claim 34, further including:
adhering double sided tape to the alphanumeric symbol.

36. (original) A method of accurately making a sign with a frame having a face, the method comprising:

Applicants : Sharon K. Ernst et al.
Appln. No. : 10/627,139
Page : 9

providing a template with a scale thereon;
providing an opening through the template;
placing the template in position against the face of the frame;
providing at least one alphanumeric locator, the at least one alphanumeric locator having an aperture therethrough;
locating the at least one alphanumeric locator within the opening of the template and aligning a portion of the at least one alphanumeric locator with the scale of the template to accurately position the at least one alphanumeric locator;
providing an alphanumeric symbol for each alphanumeric locator, each alphanumeric symbol having a periphery corresponding to a perimeter of the aperture of one of the at least one alphanumeric locator;
inserting the alphanumeric symbol through the aperture in one of the at least one alphanumeric locator; and
connecting each alphanumeric symbol to the face of the frame.

37. (original) The method of accurately making a sign of claim 36, further including:
adhering double sided tape to the alphanumeric symbol.

38. (original) A method of accurately aligning at least one alphanumeric symbol on a face of a frame to make a sign, the method comprising:

providing a template with a scale thereon;
providing an opening through the template;
placing the template in position against the face of the frame;
providing at least one alphanumeric locator, the at least one alphanumeric locator having an aperture therethrough;
locating the at least one alphanumeric locator within the opening of the template and aligning a portion of the at least one alphanumeric locator with the scale of the template to accurately position the at least one alphanumeric locator;

Applicants : Sharon K. Ernst et al.
Appln. No. : 10/627,139
Page : 10

providing each aperture with a perimeter corresponding to a periphery of at least one alphanumeric symbol;

inserting the alphanumeric symbol through the aperture in one of the at least one alphanumeric locator; and

connecting the at least one alphanumeric symbol to the face of the frame.

39. (new) The sign system assembly of claim 1, wherein:

the at least one alphanumeric locator comprises at least two alphanumeric locators; and

the at least two alphanumeric locators are configured to fit within the opening of the template and be properly located in position by aligning the portion of each of the at least two alphanumeric locators with the scale of the template.

40. (new) The sign system assembly of claim 1, wherein:

the at least one alphanumeric locator can slide within the opening of the template to align the portion of the at least one alphanumeric locator with the scale of the template.

41. (new) The sign making system of claim 13, wherein:

the at least one alphanumeric locator comprises at least two alphanumeric locators; and

the at least two alphanumeric locators are configured to fit within the opening of the template and be properly located in position by aligning the portion of each of the at least two alphanumeric locators with the scale of the template.

42. (new) The sign system assembly of claim 13, wherein:

the at least one alphanumeric locator can slide within the opening of the template to align the portion of the at least one alphanumeric locator with the scale of the template.

43. (new) The sign making system assembly of claim 24, wherein:

the at least one alphanumeric locator comprises at least two alphanumeric locators; and

the at least two alphanumeric locators are configured to fit within the opening of the

Applicants : Sharon K. Ernst et al.
Appln. No. : 10/627,139
Page : 11

template and be properly located in position by aligning the portion of each of the at least two alphanumeric locators with the scale of the template.

44. (new) The sign making system assembly of claim 24, wherein:

the at least one alphanumeric locator can slide within the opening of the template to align the portion of the at least one alphanumeric locator with the scale of the template.

45. (new) The method of claim 34, wherein:

locating at least one alphanumeric locator within the opening of the template comprises locating at least two alphanumeric locators within the opening of the template.

46. (new) The method of claim 34, wherein:

aligning the portion of the at least one alphanumeric locator with the scale of the template comprises sliding the at least one alphanumeric locator within the opening of the template.

47. (new) The method of claim 36, wherein:

locating at least one alphanumeric locator within the opening of the template comprises locating at least two alphanumeric locators within the opening of the template.

48. (new) The method of claim 36, wherein:

aligning the portion of the at least one alphanumeric locator with the scale of the template comprises sliding the at least one alphanumeric locator within the opening of the template.

49. (new) The method of claim 38, wherein:

locating at least one alphanumeric locator within the opening of the template comprises locating at least two alphanumeric locators within the opening of the template.

Applicants : Sharon K. Ernst et al.
Appln. No. : 10/627,139
Page : 12

50. (new) The method of claim 38, wherein:
aligning the portion of the at least one alphanumeric locator with the scale of the template comprises sliding the at least one alphanumeric locator within the opening of the template.